

#### Introduction

The following air quality impacts summary was taken from the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation Powder River Basin Expansion Project Draft EIS.

# **Near Field Impacts to Air Pollutant Concentrations**

Figure H-1 shows the maximum near field concentrations for criteria air pollutants for the worst-case emissions as percentages of the applicable national and Wyoming ambient air quality standards (NAAQS and WAAQS, respectively). The modeled cumulative concentration impacts are all in compliance with the NAAQS and WAAQS.

Figure H-2 shows the maximum near field concentrations for criteria air pollutants for the worst-case emissions as percentages for the applicable PSD class increments. All modeled cumulative concentration impacts, with the exception of the 24-hour particulate matter concentration, are all less than the PSD class II increments. This large potential impact may be due to the techniques used to model fugitive dust emissions from mining operations.

Figures H-1 and H-2 depict the following data:

| Pollutant     | % NA       | % PSD      |            |  |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|--|
|               | Monitored  | Modeled    | Modeled    |  |
|               | Background | Cumulative | Cumulative |  |
| SO2 annual    | 5.0        | 1.9        | 5.7        |  |
| SO2 24-hour   | 3.1        | 3.2        | 9.2        |  |
| SO2 3-hour    | 0.6        | 2.5        | 6.4        |  |
| NO2 annual    | 16.5       | 3.4        | 13.4       |  |
| PM10 annual   | 32.2       | 19.3       | 56.8       |  |
| PM10 24-hour  | 30.7       | 45.0       | 224.8      |  |
| PM2.5 annual  | 37.3       | 0.0        |            |  |
| PM2.5 24-hour | 24.8       | 9.9        |            |  |
| CO 8-hour     | 15.0       | 0.0        |            |  |
| CO 1-hour     | 8.8        | 0.0        |            |  |

## Far Field Impacts to Air Pollutant Concentrations

Figure H-3 shows the maximum far field concentrations for criteria air pollutants for the worst-case emissions as percentages of the applicable NAAQS and WAAQS. The modeled cumulative concentration impacts are all less than 40 percent of the national standards.

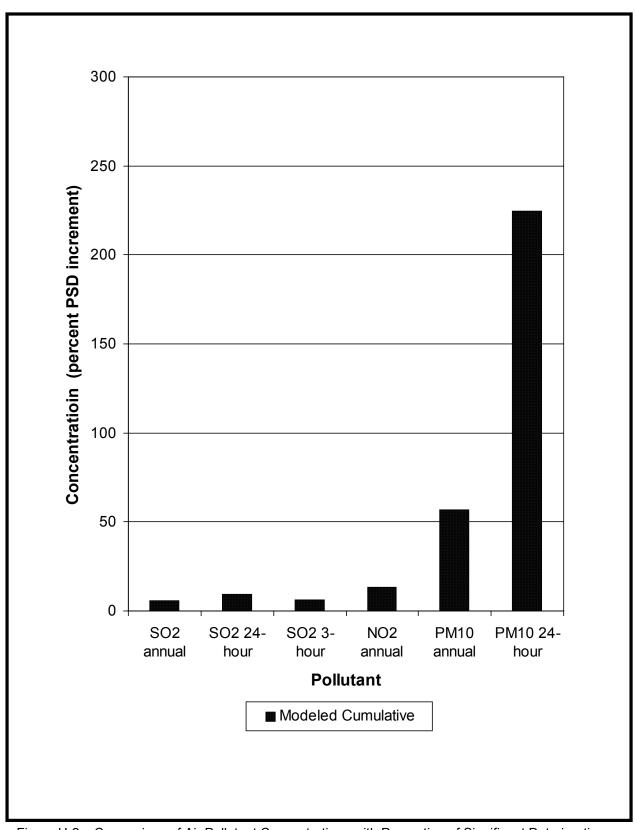


Figure H-2. Comparison of Air Pollutant Concentrations with Prevention of Significant Deterioration Increments.

Figure H-4 shows the maximum far field concentrations for criteria air pollutants for the worst-case emissions as percentages of the applicable Class I and Class II PSD increments. The modeled cumulative concentration impacts are all less than 40% of the PSD increments.

Figures H-3 and H-4 depict the following data:

| Pollutant     | Total Impact (%WAAQS) |                 |                 |                 |                  |                     |                          |                  |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|               | Badlands<br>NP        | Black Elk<br>WA | Mt.<br>Rushmore | Wind Cave<br>NP | Jewel Cave<br>NP | Devil's Tower<br>NM | Northern<br>Cheyenne Res | Cloud Peak<br>WA |
| SO2 annual    | 5.10                  | 5.18            | 5.17            | 5.20            | 5.27             | 5.23                | 5.03                     | 5.02             |
| SO2 24-hour   | 3.30                  | 3.51            | 3.48            | 3.50            | 3.71             | 3.46                | 3.54                     | 3.29             |
| SO2 3-hour    | 0.77                  | 0.97            | 0.92            | 0.82            | 0.99             | 0.81                | 0.86                     | 0.75             |
| NO2 annual    | 16.74                 | 16.77           | 16.76           | 16.83           | 16.88            | 17.01               | 16.57                    | 16.53            |
| PM10 annual   | 32.58                 | 32.96           | 32.90           | 32.94           | 33.22            | 34.34               | 32.56                    | 32.58            |
| PM10 24-hour  | 31.90                 | 33.12           | 33.07           | 32.62           | 33.45            | 34.77               | 33.50                    | 34.21            |
| PM2.5 annual  | 37.33                 | 37.33           | 37.33           | 37.33           | 37.33            | 37.33               | 37.33                    | 37.33            |
| PM2.5 24-hour | 24.82                 | 24.78           | 24.78           | 24.80           | 24.78            | 24.78               | 24.78                    | 24.77            |

| Pollutant    | Cumulative Impact (%PSD) |                 |                 |                 |                  |                     |                          |                  |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|              | Badlands<br>NP           | Black Elk<br>WA | Mt.<br>Rushmore | Wind Cave<br>NP | Jewel Cave<br>NP | Devil's Tower<br>NM | Northern<br>Cheyenne Res | Cloud Peak<br>WA |
| SO2 annual   | 3.00                     | 0.55            | 0.05            | 6.00            | 0.80             | 0.70                | 1.00                     | 0.05             |
| SO2 24-hour  | 11.60                    | 1.26            | 1.15            | 26.40           | 1.81             | 1.09                | 24.20                    | 0.60             |
| SO2 3-hour   | 7.88                     | 0.91            | 0.77            | 10.76           | 0.96             | 0.52                | 12.76                    | 0.33             |
| NO2 annual   | 12.00                    | 1.08            | 1.04            | 16.50           | 1.52             | 2.04                | 3.50                     | 0.12             |
| PM10 annual  | 4.75                     | 2.24            | 2.06            | 9.25            | 3.00             | 6.29                | 4.50                     | 1.12             |
| PM10 24-hour | 23.12                    | 12.27           | 12.03           | 36.63           | 13.90            | 20.53               | 53.13                    | 17.70            |

## **Cumulative Acid Deposition Impacts**

Figure H-5 shows the potential deposition rate for sulphur and nitrogen over Florence Lake (Cloud Peak Wilderness Area), Badlands National Park and Wind Cave National Park for the worst-case emissions. The modeled cumulative acid deposition impacts are all less than 0.2 kilograms per hectare per year. A deposition rate of at least 10 kilograms per hectare per year would be considered significant.

Acid deposition impacts are also compared to the USFS level of acceptable change in acid neutralizing capacity (ANC). The potential worst case impact to ANC in Cloud Peak Wilderness Area is less than 20 percent of the USFS level of acceptable change.

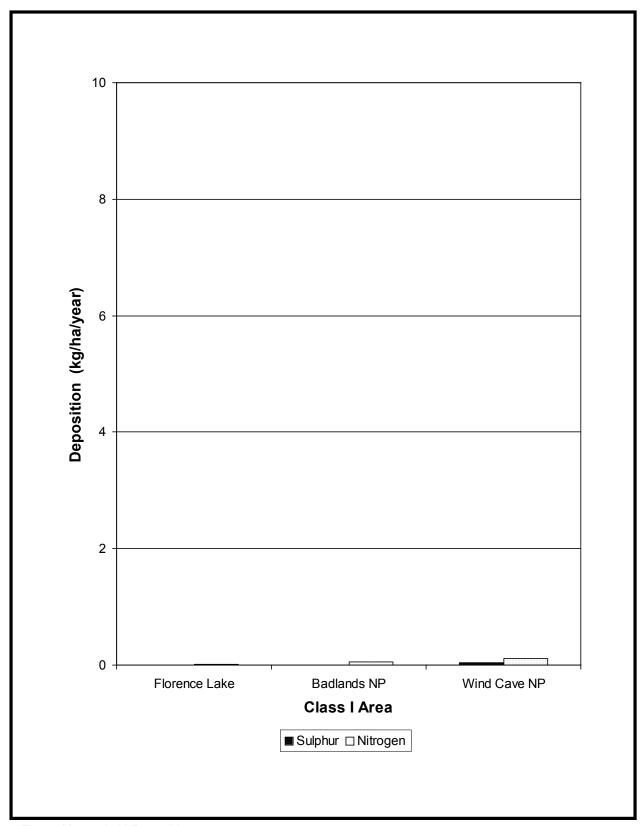


Figure H-5. Acid Deposition.

Figure H-5 depicts the following data:

| Pollutant | Acid Deposion (kg/ha/year)             |        |        |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--------|--------|--|--|--|--|
|           | Florence Lake Badlands NP Wind Cave NP |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| Sulphur   | 0.00064                                | 0.0016 | 0.047  |  |  |  |  |
| Nitrogen  | 0.0149                                 | 0.0536 | 0.1124 |  |  |  |  |

## **Cumulative Impacts to Visibility**

Figure H-6 shows the potential worst-case visibility impacts in nearby National Parks, National Monuments, Wilderness Areas and an Indian Reservation. Visibility impacts to Devil's Tower National Monument could be up to 150 days with a 5 percent or greater increase in haziness, and up to 74 days with a 10 percent or greater increase in haziness. The greatest increase could potentially be almost 80 percent hazier than the cleanest visibility.

Figure H-6 depicts the following data:

|                         | Badlands<br>NP | Black Elk<br>WA | Mt.<br>Rushmore | Wind<br>Cave NP | Jewel<br>Cave NP | Devil's<br>Tower NM | Northern<br>Cheyenne Res. | Cloud Peak<br>WA |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Number of<br>days > 5%  | 82             | 85              | 80              | 92              | 105              | 150                 | 41                        | 35               |
| Number of<br>days > 10% | 33             | 33              | 30              | 34              | 44               | 74                  | 24                        | 20               |
| Maximum %               | 29.1           | 27.5            | 26.1            | 29.7            | 32.7             | 77.4                | 84.7                      | 47.1             |

#### **References and Personal Contacts**

This summary was compiled from the air quality analysis within the DM&E Railroad Corporation Powder River Basin Expansion Project Draft EIS by Susan Caplan of the BLM.